

3-8147

MAR 18 1953

The Honorable Timothy P. Sheehan
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Sheehan:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 11 March 1953 with regard to the possible employment by the Central Intelligence Agency of Communist sympathizers and persons with known pro-Russian leanings.

The Central Intelligence Agency was established by the National Security Act of 1947. I have been associated with the Agency since approximately 1 January 1951 and had some firsthand knowledge of it prior to that date. From this knowledge I believe that I can state categorically that the Central Intelligence Agency has never knowingly taken into this Agency any Communist sympathizers or persons with known pro-Communist leanings.

Every employee of this Agency receives a full field investigation prior to entering on duty. If derogatory information of a security nature is received subsequent to a person's employment here, a full investigation of the facts is made immediately to determine whether the employee is suitable for continued employment with this Agency. Furthermore, regardless of the receipt of such information, all of our employees are subject to periodic re-examination.

As I have stated above, we would never knowingly take into this Agency a person with sympathies such as you have described if we were aware of such subversive tendency at the time of appointment. If any such tendencies were discovered subsequent to appointment and were borne out by investigation, the services of such an employee would be summarily terminated under my statutory authorities which are set forth in Section 102(c) of the National Security Act of 1947.

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Both my predecessor, General Smith, and I have felt that because of the highly sensitive nature of the work of our Agency it will always be a prime target for penetration by subversive elements. Therefore, we try to leave no stone unturned to guarantee the security of our installations, operations, and personnel. I would like to enlist your personal cooperation to the extent that if you ever have any information of a derogatory nature concerning any of our personnel you will bring it to my personal attention at the earliest possible moment. You can be assured that such information will receive both confidential and immediate treatment.

Sincerely yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

OGC:WLPforzheimer/blc
Orig. & 1 - Addressee
2 - Signer
1 - Assistant Deputy (I&S) W/basic
2 - OGC

Concurrences:

Deputy Director/Administration

Deputy Assistant Deputy (I&S)

Legislative Counsel

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